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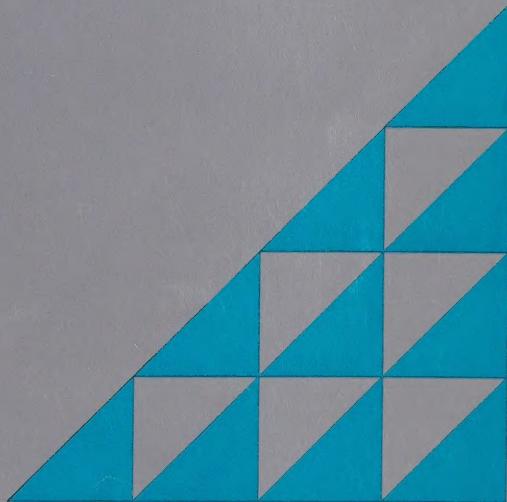
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# 1986 Census Highlights on Registered Indians:

## Annotated Tables



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1986 CENSUS HIGHLIGHTS ON REGISTERED INDIANS:  
ANNOTATED TABLES

BY

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Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research  
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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a comparative description of key socio-demographic conditions of registered Indians in Canada, the provinces and the territories. Comparisons are drawn between the situation of on and off-reserve Indians, the general population as well as the population residing in communities with comparable circumstances near reserves.

It also introduces users to the wide range of 1986 Census information available which can be used for decision-making in policy development and program planning.

The reader is cautioned that aboriginal origin data from the 1981 and 1986 Censuses are not directly comparable.

According to the 1986 Census:

- Registered Indians comprise almost two-fifths of the seven hundred thousand people with aboriginal origins in Canada.
- Registered Indians comprise approximately 1% of the total Canadian population.
- Slightly over three-fifths of registered Indians live on reserve.
- There are more Indian females than males living off reserve.
- Indian census families tend to be larger than all other census families.
- Nearly two-fifths of Indians 15 years and over have less than grade 9 education.
- Slightly over a quarter of Indians 15 years of age and over have at least high school education.
- Slightly less than a third of Indians 15 years of age and over are employed.
- Fishing, trapping, forestry and other related primary occupations are twice as common among Indians than the general population.
- Average Indian incomes are half those of the general population.
- Employment is the major source of income for half of Indians. Over two-fifths of Indians have government transfer payments as their major source of income.
- One-fifth of Indian dwellings have more than one person per room.
- Almost one-quarter of Indian dwellings lack a central heating system.



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## 2. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is twofold.

First, using 1986 Census data, it is to provide a comparative description of key socio-demographic conditions of registered Indians in Canada, the provinces and territories and draw comparisons between the situation of on and off-reserve Indians and two reference populations. These latter populations are the total population less registered Indians (predominantly consisting of populations living in urban areas) and, for the first time, populations residing in communities near reserves with comparable circumstances such as population size and accessibility to services and markets. These latter communities are largely rural.

The second purpose of this report is to introduce users to the wide range of 1981 and 1986 Census information available which can be used for decision-making in policy development and program planning.

This report updates the 1981 Census Highlights on Registered Indians: Annotated Tables report produced by INAC in 1985. The reader is referred to the methodology section for some of the limitations related to the comparability of the data from these two censuses.

The analysis found here is essentially descriptive in nature. On the page opposite each table, highlights pertaining to the table are provided in the left hand side column of the text. On the right hand side column are shown additional census variables which will be shortly available from Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic

Research's (QASR) extensive collection of customized census products. The following is a brief description of the four census products based on INAC's customized data from the 1986 Census available from QASR. Data from the first two products have been used to create this report.

### 1. Overview Report Tables

These are single page, ready-to-use cross-tabulations of basic census variables, similar to those appearing in the earlier Overview Series on Indian Conditions. Comparisons between on and off-reserve Indians vis-à-vis the general population are highlighted.

### 2. Comparison Population Near Reserves Tables

These are ready to use cross-tabulations of variables that will be similar in content and format to the Overview Report Tables. They will convey to users a comparison of conditions on Indian reserves (particularly of Indian people) to conditions among populations living near reserves.

The two major selection criteria for the comparison communities near reserves were a shared geographical area and similar population size with matched reserves. The list of reserves and comparison communities is available from QASR upon request. For further details, the reader is referred to a report by Daniel Caron, Methodologies for Community Comparisons, Evaluation Branch, INAC, June 1988.

### **3. Detailed Tabulations**

These highly detailed cross-tabulations of variables are similar to those requested by INAC in 1981. They will allow users to develop their own tables. Comparisons between various populations and locations are available.

These various populations are:

- Total Population
- Total Aboriginal Population
- Total Registered Indians
- Registered Indians (On Reserve)
- Registered Indians (Off Reserve)
- Inuit
- Other Single Aboriginal Origins
- Other Multiple Aboriginal Origins
- Total Population less Registered Indians
- Total Population of Comparison Communities Near Reserves

### **4. Census Subdivisions Profiles**

These are sets of approximately 100 indicators produced at the individual census subdivision (including reserve) level. Comparisons between particular reserves and neighbouring communities are available.

Confidentiality considerations applied by Statistics Canada will determine the extent of characteristics available by census subdivision.

Our thanks also go to the numerous people from Census Customer Services of Statistics Canada who produced the census special tabulations utilized in this report.

We are greatful to Michel Champagne from INAC who designed the cover of this report.

Last but not least, our thanks go to Mrs. Micheline Roy for her dedication and patience with respect to the typing of this report.

The authors take full responsibility for any errors in this report and remain available for discussions on any particular matter.

The reader requiring more detailed 1981 and 1986 Census data on aboriginal people should contact QASR at (819) 953-7053.

The authors are pleased to acknowledge the valuable comments and contributions to the Methodology Section of Joan Coulter of Statistics Canada. Also, the advice and contributions of Robin Armstrong, Tom Brecher and Daniel Caron from INAC in the design of the above census products have been invaluable.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

The socio-demographic indicators presented in this report were derived from the first two 1986 census special products described in the Introduction to this report. The statistics are based on INAC's customized data from the 1986 Census of Population and Housing. These customized data enable INAC to better identify the registered Indian population from the census through redefining the ethnic and residence variables.

INAC used as a base those persons who reported aboriginal origin in Question 17 of the 1986 Census. A series of adjustments was then applied to this base population using a separate census question on aboriginal identity (Question 7) to identify the segment of the base population which best approximate the Indian Act definition of a registered or status Indian. While there was a respondent problem which occurred in Question 7, INAC feels that the impact of this problem has been minimized sufficiently to permit use of the customized data. This was achieved through the cross-classification of responses to Question 7 and 17 and residency. (For further information on Question 7, please see "1986 Census, Data Quality Note on Question 7 - Aboriginal Status" by Janet Hagey, Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division, Statistics Canada, July, 1987).

Statistics Canada is not publishing results on aboriginal identity from Question 7. Rather, the Statistics Canada definition of the aboriginal population is based solely on the ethnic origin question (#17). This question identifies North American Indians as one group, without distinguishing registered and non-registered Indians. It also provides counts for Métis and

Inuit, as well as populations of mixed aboriginal and non-aboriginal ancestry.

Throughout this report "Indian" means registered or status Indian.

The geographic level "on reserve" includes the population on reserve and on Crown lands and settlements as of June 3, 1986 as well as selected communities such as Villages Cree, Villages Naskapi, and specified Enumeration Areas and Census Subdivisions.

The reader is cautioned that aboriginal origin data from the 1981 and 1986 censuses are not directly comparable due to the following major reasons:

1. In 1986, 90 Indian bands (136 reserves) did not cooperate with the taking of the census. These communities represented an estimated 45,000 people. In 1981, six bands refused to be enumerated with a population of approximately 10,000 people. These refusals resulted, particularly in 1986, in a significant under-representation of on-reserve Indians. The extent of non-response varies considerably by province as shown in Table 3.1. A study of the impact of the non-responses is in progress by Statistics Canada.

2. The formulation of the ethnic origin question in 1986 was different from the one used in 1981. Respondents were not given the opportunity to identify themselves as status or non-status Indians in the 1986 Census ethnic origin question, although this was possible in 1981. However, a new question

(#7) did provide that opportunity.

3. The 1986 Census encouraged multiple responses to the ethnicity question (#17) while the 1981 Census did not. This resulted in significantly higher aboriginal population counts than those from 1981.

The reader is also cautioned that the registered Indian population has significantly changed in size and characteristics due to the reinstatement of individuals or new registrants as a result of Bill C-31 which implemented in 1985 changes to the Indian Act. Once completed, by 1990, this process is expected to increase the registered Indian population by approximately 90,000. This will result in major changes to the count, geographic distribution, and characteristics of this population, such as the ratios of on and off-reserve residents. These changes were only just beginning to take place at the time of the 1986 Census. Their effect on the 1986 data cannot be assessed, as it is not known how these persons would have responded to questions 7 and 17.

The 1986 INAC customized census counts for registered Indians are below the 1981 Census customized counts and the official counts available from the Indian Register of INAC. The total 1986 Census registered Indian population of 263,245 (as of June 3) used herein is 32 percent lower than the Indian Register count of 387,829 (as of December 31).

Part of this discrepancy can be explained by the inherent differences between the two data collection vehicles used, the Indian Register being a statutory administrative database and the census a self-enumeration survey.

It is important to note, that the Indian Register count is itself consistently low by approximately 13,000 due to the late reporting of births. Furthermore, the 1986 Indian Register includes 17,857 Bill C-31 registrants.

Data regarding socio-demographic characteristics of the total population which are presented in this report are based on a 20% sample weighted to provide estimates of the entire population. On Indian reserves and in remote areas, these data were collected on a 100% basis.

For 1986 Census definitions of terms and variables used, the reader is referred to Statistics Canada's 1986 Census Dictionary, Catalogue No. 99-101E.

TABLE 3.1: Population and Occupied Private Dwellings, Showing Estimates for Incompletely Enumerated Indian Reserves and Indian Settlements, for Canada, Provinces and Territories, 1986

	Excluding incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and Indian settlements		Estimates for incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and Indian settlements		Including estimates on incompletely enumerated Indian reserves and Indian settlements	
	Population	Occupied private dwellings (1)	Population	Occupied private dwellings (1)	Population	Occupied private dwellings (1)
Canada	25,309,331	9,046,933	44,733	10,600	25,354,064	9,057,533
Nfld.	568,349	159,917	-	-	568,349	159,917
P.E.I.	126,646	40,872	-	-	126,646	40,872
N.S.	873,176	297,224	23	6	873,199	297,230
N.B.	709,442	232,701	980	271	710,422	232,972
Quebec	6,532,461	2,370,889	7,815	1,582	6,540,276	2,372,471
Ontario	9,101,694	3,243,752	11,821	3,112	9,113,515	3,246,864
Manitoba	1,063,016	384,324	8,216	1,673	1,071,232	385,997
Sask.	1,009,613	360,467	585	123	1,010,198	360,590
Alberta	2,365,825	840,527	9,453	1,949	2,375,278	842,476
B.C.	2,883,367	1,094,217	5,840	1,884	2,889,207	1,096,101
Yukon	23,504	8,143	-	-	23,504	8,143
NWT	52,238	13,900	-	-	52,238	13,900

(1) Includes all private dwellings occupied by usual residents as well as private dwellings occupied solely by foreign and (or) temporary residents.

Source: Statistics Canada, Summary Tabulations of Ethnic and Aboriginal Origins, 1986 Census of Canada, Appendix I, Page xvii.

#### 4. POPULATION

##### **Registered Indians Comprise Almost Two-Fifths of the Seven Hundred Thousand Canadians with Aboriginal Origins**

As indicated in Table 4.1:

- . According to the 1986 Census, 711,725 Canadians reported some aboriginal origin, among these were 263,245 registered Indians, 33,460 Inuit and 415,025 of other Aboriginal origin (such as Métis or non-status Indians).
- . Ontario had the largest number of Aboriginal people (167,375) and the Yukon had the smallest (4,995).
- . There were more registered Indians (54,130) who reported living in British Columbia than any other province. Ontario was second with 46,725 Indians, followed by Saskatchewan (42,075) and Manitoba (39,510). This ranking of provincial populations is different than that found in the Indian Register which indicates that Ontario has more registered Indians than B.C.. This is due in part to bands not participating in the 1986 Census.
- . The Yukon had the smallest number of registered Indians (2,965), followed by New Brunswick and P.E.I. (4,525) and Nova Scotia and Newfoundland (6,445).
- . Over half of Saskatchewan's Aboriginal population were registered Indians while just under one-quarter of the Aboriginal population in NWT were Indians.
- . The NWT had the largest Inuit population (18,135) while Ontario had the largest number of other Aboriginals (118,390).

TABLE 4.1: Ethnic Composition of the Aboriginal Population, Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1986

Province/ Territory	Aboriginal Groups			
	Registered Indians	Inuit	Other with at Least Some Aboriginal Origin <sup>2</sup>	Total with Aboriginal Origins
Nova Scotia and Nfld.	6,445	3,850	13,485	23,780
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	4,525	145	6,005	10,665
Quebec	26,115	7,045	47,785	80,945
Ontario	46,725	2,270	118,390	167,375
Manitoba	39,510	385	45,345	85,230
Saskatchewan	42,075	100	35,475	77,650
Alberta	33,340	745	69,845	103,930
British Columbia	54,130	740	71,755	126,625
Yukon	2,965	60	1,970	4,995
NWT	7,425	18,135	4,970	30,525
Canada	263,245	33,460	415,025	711,725

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. Includes Métis, non-status Indians and multiple origins with at least one aboriginal origin.

3. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

**Registered Indians Comprise Approximately 1%  
of the Total Canadian Population**

As indicated in Table 4.2:

Registered Indians comprised 1.1% of the total Canadian population, while Aboriginal people as a whole comprised 2.8%.

While 14% of the total population of the NWT were registered Indians only 0.4% of the total population of Quebec and 0.5% of the total population of Ontario, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, and New Brunswick and P.E.I. were Indians.

In the Yukon, Saskatchewan and Manitoba respectively, registered Indians comprised 12.7%, 4.2%, and 3.8% of the total population; the total Aboriginal population comprised 21.4% of the Yukon's, 8.1% of Manitoba's, 7.8% of Saskatchewan's respective total populations.

Close to three-fifths (59%) of the total population in the NWT were Aboriginal people, and of these 14% were registered Indians and 44% other Aboriginal people.

Other related data soon to be available are:

Population by Age Groups and by Sex.

Population by Disability Status by Sex by Age Groups.

TABLE 4.2: Registered Indian, Other Aboriginal and Total Aboriginal Populations as a Percentage of Total Canadian and Provincial/Territorial Populations, 1986

Province/ Territory	Population		
	Registered Indians as a Percentage of Total Population	Other Aboriginal <sup>2</sup> as a Percentage of Total Population	Total Aboriginal <sup>3</sup> as a Percentage of Total Population
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland	0.5	1.2	1.7
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	0.5	0.7	1.3
Quebec	0.4	0.8	1.3
Ontario	0.5	1.3	1.9
Manitoba	3.8	4.4	8.1
Saskatchewan	4.2	3.6	7.8
Alberta	1.4	3.0	4.4
British Columbia	1.9	2.5	4.4
Yukon	12.7	8.7	21.4
NWT	14.3	44.4	58.7
Canada	1.1	1.8	2.8

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. Other Aboriginal includes Inuit, Métis, non-status Indians and multiple origins with at least one aboriginal origin other than registered Indians.

3. Total Aboriginal includes registered Indians and Other Aboriginal.

4. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

### Slightly Over Three-Fifths of Registered Indians Live On Reserve

As indicated in Table 4.3:

While 62% of registered Indians lived on-reserve (164,315 out of 263,245), 38% lived off-reserve (98,930).

Among the provinces, Quebec had the highest percentage of its Indian population on reserve, 82%, while British Columbia had the lowest percentage, 54%.

For the NWT and the Yukon respectively, 76% and 45% of registered Indians lived on reserve.

The greatest percentage difference between on and off-reserve Indian population occurred in Quebec where four times as many Indians lived on reserve than off (82% versus 19%).

Other related data soon to be available are:

Population by Sex by Age Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population by Sex by Age Groups for Selected Census Metropolitan Areas and Census Agglomerations.

Population by Sex by Age Groups by Mobility Status.

Population by Sex by Place of Residence in 1981 by Mobility Status.

TABLE 4.3: Percentage of Registered Indian Population On and Off-Reserve, Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1986

Province/ Territory	Place of Residence of Population <sup>2</sup>		
	On Reserve	Off Reserve	Total
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland	78.7	21.3	100
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	76.2	23.8	100
Quebec	81.5	18.5	100
Ontario	54.5	45.5	100
Manitoba	66.2	33.8	100
Saskatchewan	63.5	36.5	100
Alberta	59.5	40.5	100
British Columbia	54.2	45.8	100
Yukon	45.0	55.0	100
NWT	76.4	23.6	100
Canada	62.4	37.6	100

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. Reported place of residence as of June 3, 1986.

3. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

**There Are More Indian Females than Males Living Off Reserve**

As indicated in Table 4.4:

Fifty-five per cent of the off-reserve Indian population were females. For the on-reserve Indian population, nearly the opposite was observed.

New Brunswick and P.E.I. had the smallest percentage of females among its on-reserve Indian population than did any other province. The Yukon had a greater percentage of males among its on-reserve Indian population.

Among the off-reserve Indian population, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland had a greater percentage of males than any other province.

Other related data soon to be available are:

Population by Mother Tongue by Home Language by Age Groups.

**TABLE 4.4: Percentage of Registered Indian Population On and Off-Reserve by Sex, Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1986**

Province/ Territory	Percentage of Registered Indian Population					
	On Reserve			Off Reserve		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland	52.0	48.0	100	48.7	51.3	100
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	53.8	46.1	100	44.7	55.8	100
Quebec	51.5	48.5	100	43.8	56.3	100
Ontario	51.3	48.7	100	46.1	53.9	100
Manitoba	51.9	48.1	100	44.6	55.4	100
Saskatchewan	51.5	48.5	100	44.2	55.8	100
Alberta	51.4	48.6	100	44.3	55.8	100
British Columbia	53.5	46.5	100	46.4	53.6	100
Yukon	54.3	45.7	100	46.3	53.7	100
NWT	53.0	46.9	100	44.6	55.4	100
Canada	52.0	48.0	100	45.3	54.7	100

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.
2. Totals may not add up due to rounding.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

## 5. FAMILY

### Indian Census Families Tend to be Larger Than All Other Census Families

As indicated in Table 5.1:

On average, Indian census families were over one-fifth larger than all other census families in Canada (3.8 versus 3.1).

On average, on-reserve Indian families were larger than all other families in Canada by one person (4.2 versus 3.1) and over one-quarter larger than the families in communities near reserves (4.2 versus 3.3).

On-reserve Indian census families were slightly over 20% larger on average than off-reserve Indian census families, 4.2 versus 3.4.

The Yukon (3.5), British Columbia (3.7), New Brunswick and P.E.I. (3.8) and Ontario (3.9) were the only territory/provinces to have less than four persons per family on reserve.

Among off-reserve Indian census families, there was little provincial/territorial variation from the national off-reserve Indian average.

Other related data soon to be available are:

Census Families by Size of Family by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population in Private Households by Sex by Economic Family Status by Rural-Urban Residence.

Economic Families by Economic Family Income by Size of Family by Income Status by Rural-Urban Residence.

TABLE 5.1: Average Number of Persons per Family for Registered Indian and All Other Census Families, Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1986

Province/ Territory	Average Number of Persons per Family				
	Registered Indian Census Families			All Other Census Families <sup>2</sup>	Census Families Near Reserves <sup>3</sup>
	On Reserve	Off Reserve	Total		
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland	4.3	3.3	4.1	3.4	3.4
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	3.8	3.4	3.7	3.3	3.4
Quebec	4.5	3.3	4.1	3.1	3.4
Ontario	3.9	3.4	3.6	3.1	3.1
Manitoba	4.4	3.6	4.1	3.1	3.1
Saskatchewan	4.5	3.7	4.1	3.2	3.2
Alberta	4.4	3.5	3.9	3.2	3.2
British Columbia	3.7	3.3	3.5	3.0	3.0
Yukon	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.2
NWT	4.6	3.6	4.3	3.8	3.5
Canada	4.2	3.4	3.8	3.1	3.3

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. Refers to all census families of the specified geographical area less registered Indian census families.

3. Refers to all census families of comparison communities near reserves within the specified geographical area.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

## 6. EDUCATION

### Nearly Two-Fifths of Indians 15 Years of Age and Over Have Less than Grade 9 Education

As indicated in Table 6.1:

The percentage of Indians 15 years of age and over who had less than grade 9 education was over twice that of the corresponding general population of Canada. In the Yukon, the percentage of Indians with less than grade 9 education was over 4.5 times that of the corresponding general territorial population.

Just over two-fifths of on-reserve Indians (45,380 out of 101,440) and almost one-quarter of off-reserve Indians (14,680 out of 60,195) had less than grade 9 education.

Slightly over 60% of Indians in the NWT and over two-fifths of those in Quebec, Manitoba and Saskatchewan had less than grade 9 education. Three out of 10 Indians in Ontario and British Columbia had less than grade 9 education.

Nearly two-thirds of on-reserve Indians in the NWT and just over half of those in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Quebec had less than grade 9 education.

NWT had the highest proportion of Indians living off-reserve having less than grade 9 (44%) than any other province/territory. Alberta had the lowest proportion with less than grade 9 (20%).

The national percentage of Indians living on reserve who had less than grade 9 education was over one and a half times that of the corresponding population living near these reserves.

Other related data soon to be available are:

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Age Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Age Groups by Labour Force Activity.

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Age Groups by Labour Force Activity Rates.

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Total Individual Income Groups by Age Groups.

TABLE 6.1: Percentage of Registered Indian and General Populations with Less than Grade 9 Education, Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1986

Province/ Territory	Percentage of Population <sup>2</sup> with Less than Grade 9 Education <sup>3</sup>				
	Registered Indian Population			General Population <sup>4</sup>	Pop. Near Reserves <sup>5</sup>
	On Reserve	Off Reserve	Total		
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland	38.5	22.2	34.9	20.7	32.5
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	36.0	28.7	34.4	23.2	30.6
Quebec	50.7	28.4	46.2	23.8	34.5
Ontario	35.5	21.4	29.1	14.5	22.6
Manitoba	52.7	27.7	44.2	17.4	29.9
Saskatchewan	51.0	29.0	43.1	18.4	27.2
Alberta	44.9	19.8	35.1	10.6	15.5
British Columbia	35.6	22.5	29.8	11.1	13.7
Yukon	44.4	28.4	35.8	7.6	17.3
NWT	65.4	44.3	60.5	28.8	21.5
Canada	44.7	24.4	37.2	17.1	25.8

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. Populations 15 years of age and over.

3. For statistical purposes, less than grade 9 education is used as a proxy of functional illiteracy.

4. Refers to the total population (15+) of the specified geographical area less registered Indians.

5. Refers to the total population (15+) of comparison communities near reserves within the specified geographical area.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

**Slightly Over a Quarter of Indians 15 Years of Age and Over  
Have At Least High School Education**

As indicated in Table 6.2:

The percentage of Indians 15 years of age and over who had at least a high school education was half that of the corresponding general population of Canada. In Manitoba, the Yukon and NWT, the percentage of the general population with at least high school education was two and one-half times that of the corresponding Indian population.

Slightly more than one-fifth of on-reserve Indians (22,020 out of 101,440) and slightly over a third of off-reserve Indians (22,545 out of 60,195) had at least high school education.

Among the provinces and territories, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland had the greatest percentage of Indians with at least high school education (38%). Only 19% of Indians in the NWT and 20% in Manitoba had achieved this level of education.

A third of on-reserve Indians in the Atlantic provinces had at least high school education, the highest percentage among the provinces/ territories.

Almost half the off-reserve Indian population 15 years of age and over in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and over two-fifths in Quebec (45%), New Brunswick and P.E.I. (44%) and Ontario (42%) had at least high school education.

The national percentage of Indians living on reserve with at least high school education was half that of the corresponding population living in comparison communities near these reserves.

Other related data soon to be available are:

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Age Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Age Groups by Labour Force Activity.

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Age Groups by Labour Force Activity Rates.

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Total Individual Income Groups by Age Groups.

TABLE 6.2: Percentage of Registered Indian and General Populations with at Least High School Education,  
Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1986

Province/ Territory	Percentage of Population <sup>2</sup> with at Least High School Education				
	Registered Indian Population			General Population <sup>3</sup>	Pop. Near Reserves <sup>4</sup>
	On Reserve	Off Reserve	Total		
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland	34.2	48.6	37.5	47.1	32.3
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	32.7	44.1	35.4	48.4	41.2
Quebec	19.7	45.3	24.9	56.4	39.7
Ontario	26.4	42.0	33.5	57.0	43.6
Manitoba	12.6	33.4	19.7	49.5	30.5
Saskatchewan	18.3	33.2	23.7	48.7	36.6
Alberta	21.1	38.1	27.7	59.0	48.7
British Columbia	26.7	36.1	30.8	59.3	52.2
Yukon	22.2	30.3	26.5	66.5	58.7
NWT	16.7	25.5	18.7	47.6	55.4
Canada	21.7	37.5	27.6	55.8	41.9

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. Populations 15 years of age and over.

3. Refers to the total population (15+) of the specified geographical area less registered Indians.

4. Refers to the total population (15+) of comparison communities near reserves within the specified geographical area.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

## 7. LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY

### Slightly Less than a Third of Indians 15 Years of Age and Over Are Employed

As indicated in Table 7.1:

The employment rate of the Indian population (31%) was nearly half that of the general population of Canada (60%). The largest difference between the employment rates of Indians and the corresponding general provincial population was in Saskatchewan (26% compared to 63%); the smallest difference was in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland (29% compared to 50%).

Slightly over one quarter of on-reserve Indians surveyed (28,645 out of 101,440) and almost two-fifths of off-reserve Indians (22,145 out of 60,195) were employed.

Among Indians, Ontario had the highest employment rate (42%) while New Brunswick and P.E.I. had the lowest rate (26%).

Among on-reserve Indians, Ontario had the highest employment rate (37%) while Nova Scotia and Newfoundland had the lowest rate (23%).

Among off-reserve Indians, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland had the highest employment rate (49%) while New Brunswick and P.E.I. had the lowest rate (29%).

The employment rate of on-reserve Indians (28%) was slightly over half that of individuals living in comparison communities near reserves (52%).

Other related data soon to be available are:

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Age Groups by Labour Force Activity.

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Age Groups by Labour Force Activity Rates.

Population by Labour Force Activity by Sex by Age Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population by Labour Force Activity Rates by Sex by Age Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population Not in the Labour Force by Labour Force Activity by Sex by Age Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population with a Post-Secondary Degree, Certificate or Diploma by Major Field of Study by Sex by Labour Force Activity Rates.

Population in the Experienced Labour Force by Sex by Age Group by Class of Worker.

TABLE 7.1: Employment Rates for the Registered Indian and General Populations, Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1986

Province/ Territory	Employment Rate <sup>2</sup>				
	Registered Indian Population			General Population <sup>3</sup>	Pop. Near Reserves <sup>4</sup>
	On Reserve	Off Reserve	Total		
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland	22.7	48.9	28.5	49.8	43.6
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	24.5	28.9	25.5	51.4	44.0
Quebec	25.2	41.1	28.4	54.7	43.1
Ontario	36.7	48.2	41.9	64.4	52.2
Manitoba	23.7	32.4	26.7	62.5	52.2
Saskatchewan	24.2	29.7	26.1	62.6	57.4
Alberta	28.1	35.6	31.0	65.9	61.4
British Columbia	30.4	31.2	30.8	57.5	55.3
Yukon	33.2	42.9	38.4	72.7	63.0
NWT	31.4	42.8	33.9	64.1	67.2
Canada	28.2	36.8	31.4	59.8	51.8

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. Employed as a percentage of populations 15 years of age and over. The reader should not consider the residual as a proxy of the unemployment rate.

3. Refers to the total population (15+) of the specified geographical area less registered Indians.

4. Refers to the total population (15+) of comparison communities near reserves within the specified geographical area.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

### Primary Group Occupations Are Twice as Common Among Indians

As indicated in Table 7.2:

Approximately seven out of 10 Indians 15 years of age and over who worked since January 1, 1985 (experienced labour force) had an occupation in the tertiary group while for the general population of Canada, three out of four (75%) had such an occupation. With respect to the secondary group, a greater proportion of non-Indians than Indians had occupations in this group (13% and 9% respectively). The percentage of Indians with occupations in the primary group was over twice that of the general population (13% to 6%).

The ratio of tertiary to primary occupations was 5:1 for Indians (4:1 for on reserve and 7:1 for off reserve Indians) compared to 14:1 for the general population of Canada.

Among the provinces, New Brunswick and P.E.I. and Saskatchewan are the only provinces with a lower percentage of Indians with occupations in the primary group (7% and 13% respectively) compared to the same group in the corresponding general population (8% and 20% respectively).

British Columbia had the highest percentage of Indians in the primary group (22%) and the lowest percentage in the tertiary group (55%). In the tertiary group, it also had the greatest percentage point difference between Indians and the general population.

People living in comparison communities near reserves had a significantly higher proportion working in the primary sector than Indians residing on reserve (22% and 16% respectively).

Other related data soon to be available are:

Population in the Experienced Labour Force by Sex by Age Groups by Occupation Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population in the Experienced Labour Force by Sex by Occupation Groups by Work Activity in 1985.

Population in the Experienced Labour Force by Industry Groups by Sex by Age Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population in the Experienced Labour Force by Sex by Industry Groups by Work Activity in 1985.

Experienced Labour Force by Industry Groups by Occupation Groups showing Average Individual Income and Average Employment Income of those that had Employment Income.

Population in the Experienced Labour Force by Sex by Class of Worker by Occupation Groups.

Population in the Experienced Labour Force by Sex by Class of Worker by Industry Groups.

TABLE 7.2: Percentage Distribution of the Experienced Labour Force for Registered Indian and General Populations by the Three Major Occupation Groups, Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1986

Province/ Territory	Experienced Labour Force (2) by the Three Major Occupation Groups (3)														
	Registered Indian Population									General Population (4)			Population Near Reserves (5)		
	On Reserve			Off Reserve			Total								
	Pri.	Sec.	Ter.	Pri.	Sec.	Ter.	Pri.	Sec.	Ter.	Pri.	Sec.	Ter.	Pri.	Sec.	Ter.
Nova Scotia and Newfoundland	8.5	6.6	73.2	7.8	13.8	69.0	8.2	9.4	71.7	7.5	12.4	73.5	18.1	21.3	53.9
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	8.0	5.7	77.1	5.3	10.5	82.5	7.3	6.5	78.0	8.3	12.9	72.4	14.7	14.6	64.3
Quebec	10.8	5.3	74.9	3.4	10.3	75.1	8.7	6.6	74.9	3.7	15.4	74.9	16.9	15.4	62.3
Ontario	11.4	11.3	66.8	7.0	14.6	70.6	9.2	13.0	68.7	3.6	14.8	74.7	12.4	15.0	65.6
Manitoba	11.9	2.7	76.4	6.8	10.1	73.6	9.8	5.7	75.2	9.3	10.9	74.1	37.0	7.3	52.0
Saskatchewan	16.2	4.5	70.9	9.1	6.9	75.3	13.3	5.5	72.7	19.5	7.1	68.7	39.3	5.9	51.5
Alberta	12.4	4.6	71.0	6.8	8.5	77.2	9.9	6.4	73.8	8.5	8.5	77.5	24.1	7.6	63.8
British Columbia	26.0	9.0	53.6	17.3	15.5	57.8	22.2	11.9	55.4	5.8	11.0	77.2	16.4	13.5	65.0
Yukon and NWT	15.1	3.0	71.2	7.6	4.0	80.1	12.1	3.4	74.7	4.7	7.3	81.0	5.5	6.3	81.5
Canada	15.5	6.7	67.6	9.5	11.9	69.9	12.9	8.9	68.6	5.5	13.2	74.9	22.0	11.7	61.1

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. Population 15 years of age and over who worked since January 1, 1985 (includes employed and unemployed).

3. Primary group includes fishing, trapping, forestry, logging and other primary occupations. Secondary group includes processing occupations, machinery, product fabricating, assembling and repairing. Tertiary group includes managerial, technological, social, religious, teaching, medicine, health and artistic occupations, clerical, sales and service occupations, construction trades occupations, transportation equipment operating. A fourth group, not shown in this table, includes occupations not elsewhere classified and persons not classifiable by occupation. Thus percentages do not add up to 100%.

4. Refers to the total population (15+) of the specified geographical area less registered Indians.

5. Refers to the total population (15+) of comparison communities near reserves within the specified geographical area.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

## 8. INCOME

**Average Indian Incomes Are Half Those of the General Population**

As indicated in Table 8.1:

Average individual income (gross income before taxes) for Indians 15 years of age and over with income in 1985 was \$9,900 or half the average for the general population, \$18,200.

Off-reserve Indians had average incomes nearly one-fifth higher than on-reserve Indians: \$11,000 compared to \$9,300.

Indians residing in Ontario had the highest average income, \$11,200 of any province/ territory.

Indians living in New Brunswick and P.E.I. had the lowest average income at \$8,000.

Indians living on-reserve in four provinces and the Yukon had average incomes not greater than \$9,000.

Among all provinces and territories, Quebec had the highest average individual income for Indians living off reserve.

Average individual income for Indians on reserve was nearly two-thirds that of individuals with income living in comparison communities near reserves. In both territories and provinces west of Ontario, on-reserve Indian incomes were approximately half the incomes of comparison communities.

Other related data soon to be available are:

Population by Highest Level of Schooling by Sex by Total Individual Income Groups by Age Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population by Sex by Age Groups by Total Individual Income Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population with Income showing Average Total Individual Income by Sex, by Age Groups, by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population in the Experienced Labour Force with Income showing Average Total Individual Income by Sex by Class of Worker.

Economic Families by Economic Family Income by Size of Family by Income Status by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population showing Counts and Average Individual Income by Sex by Place of Work by Rural-Urban Residence.

TABLE 8.1: Average Individual Income of Registered Indian and General Populations,  
Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1985

Province/ Territory	Average Individual Income <sup>2</sup>				
	Registered Indian Population			General Population <sup>3</sup>	Pop Near Reserves <sup>4</sup>
	On Reserve	Off Reserve	Total		
Nova Scotia and Nfld.	\$ 7,900	\$11,200	\$ 8,800	\$15,400	\$13,700
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	\$ 7,500	\$ 9,600	\$ 8,000	\$14,700	\$12,500
Quebec	\$ 9,900	\$13,400	\$10,700	\$17,100	\$13,700
Ontario	\$10,100	\$12,400	\$11,200	\$19,500	\$14,600
Manitoba	\$ 8,200	\$ 9,700	\$ 8,700	\$17,000	\$12,000
Saskatchewan	\$ 8,600	\$ 9,700	\$ 9,000	\$17,000	\$14,500
Alberta	\$ 9,300	\$10,300	\$ 9,700	\$19,800	\$16,300
British Columbia	\$ 9,800	\$10,800	\$10,200	\$18,700	\$17,200
Yukon	\$ 8,200	\$10,800	\$ 9,600	\$20,600	\$15,400
NWT	\$ 9,300	\$13,200	\$10,200	\$21,400	\$22,200
Canada	\$ 9,300	\$11,000	\$ 9,900	\$18,200	\$14,700

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. Population 15 years and over who received income during 1985.

3. Refers to the total population (15+) of the specified geographical area less registered Indians.

4. Refers to the total population (15+) of comparison communities near reserves within the specified geographical area.

5. Gross income (before taxes) is rounded to nearest 100.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

### Employment Is the Major Source of Income for Half of Indians

As indicated in Table 8.2:

The proportion of Indians 15 years of age and over with employment income as the major source of income was 70% of the corresponding group in the general population.

Employment income was the major source of income for seven out of 10 Indians in NWT and over two-thirds in the Yukon. Among the provinces, Ontario had the highest percentage of Indians with employment income as the major source (62%) followed by British Columbia (52%) and Alberta (50%).

Government transfer payments such as Family Allowances, Old Age Security, Guaranteed Income Supplement, Unemployment Insurance and cash welfare payments was the major source of income for 46% of Indians.

The proportion of Indians whose major source of income was in the form of government transfer payments was two and one-third that of the general population.

More than half of Indians in all provinces east of Alberta with the exception of Ontario had government transfer payments as their major source of income.

Government transfer payments were the major source of income for almost half of Indians on reserve and for two-fifths of off reserve.

Reliance on transfer payments was nearly twice as prevalent among on-reserve Indians than among the population living near reserves (48% versus 28% respectively).

Other related data soon to be available are:

Population by Major Source of Income by Sex by Age Groups by Rural-Urban Residence.

Population showing Average Total Individual Income by Sex by Major Source of Income by Rural-Urban Residence.

Experienced Labour Force by Industry Groups by Occupation Groups showing counts and Average Individual Income and Average Employment Income of those whose Major Source of Income is from Employment.

Experienced Labour Force by Industry Groups by Occupation Groups showing counts and Average Individual Income and Average Employment Income of those who had any Employment Income.

Population by Age by Work Activity in 1985 giving counts Average Wage Income, Average Net Farm Self-Employment Income, Average Net Non-Farm Self-Employment Income, Average Employment Income, Average Old Age Security Pension Income, Average Unemployment Insurance Income, Average Family Allowance Income, Average Other Government Income, Average Transfer Payment Income, Average Investment Income, Average Other Income, Average Total Income.

TABLE 8.2: Percentage of Registered Indian and General Populations With Income Whose Major Source of Income is from Employment or Government Transfer Payments, Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1985

Province/ Territory	Major Source of Income (2)									
	Employment (3)						Government Transfer Payments (4)			
	Registered Indian Population			General Population (5)	Population Near Reserves (6)	Registered Indian Population			General Population (5)	Population Near Reserves (6)
	On Reserve	Off Reserve	Total			On Reserve	Off Reserve	Total		
Nova Scotia and Nfld.	42.2	63.2	47.6	65.5	62.9	57.3	35.5	51.4	28.0	31.5
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	41.6	57.8	45.1	63.3	57.4	57.0	43.1	54.3	29.7	37.1
Quebec	42.0	56.9	45.1	67.1	56.8	53.9	37.2	50.4	24.2	36.6
Ontario	58.2	65.9	61.8	74.3	62.3	39.9	30.4	35.5	15.3	26.4
Manitoba	40.8	51.4	44.5	71.2	58.5	57.9	44.6	53.3	18.6	31.1
Saskatchewan	39.5	43.0	40.7	70.4	62.8	58.0	54.1	56.6	18.5	25.5
Alberta	46.3	56.4	50.1	77.6	70.5	40.3	38.8	39.7	14.1	19.6
B.C.	53.5	51.1	52.4	68.2	67.0	44.5	46.2	45.2	20.1	23.8
Yukon	63.8	70.2	67.1	85.4	74.7	34.2	28.7	30.8	10.4	21.3
NWT	69.5	78.1	71.4	87.4	87.7	29.6	22.5	27.8	10.7	10.6
Canada	48.1	55.6	50.9	71.0	62.7	48.4	40.9	45.6	19.4	28.2

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. That income component which constitutes the largest proportion of the total income of an individual. Investment income and other income are excluded from this table given they constitute a small proportion of total income.

3. Includes wages, salaries and self-employment.

4. Refers to income from all cash transfer payments from all levels of government e.g. Family Allowance, Unemployment Insurance and cash welfare payments.

5. Refers to the total population (15+) of the specified geographical area less registered Indians.

6. Refers to the total population (15+) of comparison communities near reserves within the specified geographical area.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

## 9. Housing

### One-Fifth of Indian Dwellings Have More than One Person per Room

As indicated in Table 9.1:

The percentage of Indian dwellings which had more than one person per room was almost 12 times that of all other dwellings in Canada. The percentage of on-reserve Indian dwellings which had more than one person per room was 17 times that of all other dwellings in Canada and 11 times that of dwellings in communities near reserves.

Over two-fifths of Indian dwellings in the NWT (44%) and just under a third of those in Manitoba (31%) had more than one person per room. Less than one in 10 Indian dwellings in New Brunswick and P.E.I. had more than one person per room.

Over a quarter of Indian dwellings on reserve (11,035 out of 38,225) and about one in 10 Indian dwellings off reserve (4,090 out of 36,325) had more than one person per room.

Over half of Indian dwellings on reserve in the NWT had more than one person per room. Nine per cent of Indian dwellings on reserve in New Brunswick and P.E.I. had more than one person per room.

Among Indian dwellings off reserve, the NWT had the highest percentage (23%) with more than one person per room while Nova Scotia and Newfoundland had the lowest percentage (6%).

Other related data soon to be available are:

Private Households by Number of Persons per Room by Rural-Urban Residence.

TABLE 9.1: Percentage of Occupied Private Dwellings which Have More than One Person per Room,  
Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1986

Province/ Territory	Percentage of Dwellings which Have More Than One Person per Room <sup>2</sup>				
	Registered Indian Private Dwellings			All Other Private Dwellings <sup>3</sup>	All Other Private Dwellings Near Reserves <sup>4</sup>
	On Reserve	Off Reserve	Total		
Nova Scotia and Nfld.	19.4	5.9	14.7	2.7	4.6
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	9.0	6.5	8.5	2.2	3.7
Quebec	36.7	6.9	26.1	1.5	3.9
Ontario	19.1	8.1	13.1	1.6	1.7
Manitoba	43.8	15.3	31.0	1.8	3.1
Saskatchewan	37.1	14.5	26.8	1.4	2.0
Alberta	33.0	12.9	22.3	1.7	1.4
British Columbia	15.7	10.2	12.7	1.5	2.1
Yukon	25.3	18.6	21.6	4.8	10.5
NWT	53.9	23.4	44.3	16.6	14.3
Canada	28.9	11.3	20.3	1.7	2.6

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.

2. For statistical purposes, a dwelling which has more than one person per room is said to be crowded.

3. Refers to all private dwellings of the specified geographical area less registered Indian private dwellings.

4. Refers to all private dwellings of comparison communities near reserves within the specified geographical area.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.

### Almost One-Quarter of Indian Dwellings Lack a Central Heating System

As indicated in Table 9.2:

The percentage of Indian dwellings which lacked a central heating system was four and one-half times that of all other dwellings in Canada.

Slightly under two-fifths of Indian dwellings on reserve (14,350 out of 38,225) and about one in 10 Indian dwellings off reserve (3,430 out of 36,235) did not have central heating.

Almost one-half of Indian dwellings in the Yukon and NWT had no central heating.

Among the provinces, Manitoba had the highest proportion of Indian dwellings on reserve without a central heating system (49%) followed by Ontario and Saskatchewan (44% respectively). New Brunswick and P.E.I. had the smallest proportion with only five per cent of Indian dwellings on reserve without such a system.

Among Indian dwellings off reserve, almost one in seven in the Atlantic provinces lacked a central heating system. In the Yukon, the percentage of Indian dwellings which had no central heating was just over three and one-third times that of the national off-reserve Indian average.

The proportion of on-reserve Indian dwellings lacking a central heating system was over two and one-half times that of dwellings in comparison communities (38% versus 14%).

Other related data soon to be available are:

Private Households by Main Type of Heating Equipment by Rural-Urban Residence.

Private Households by Period of Construction by Rural-Urban Residence.

TABLE 9.2: Percentage of Occupied Private Dwellings without a Central Heating System,  
Canada, Provinces/Territories, 1986

Province/ Territory	Percentage of Dwellings without a Central Heating System <sup>2</sup>				
	Registered Indian Private Dwellings			All Other Private Dwellings <sup>3</sup>	Private Dwellings Near Reserves <sup>4</sup>
	On Reserve	Off Reserve	Total		
Nova Scotia and Nfld.	9.9	13.4	11.6	14.2	24.3
New Brunswick and P.E.I.	4.8	12.9	8.5	11.9	19.8
Quebec	17.5	8.6	14.3	5.3	15.9
Ontario	44.1	9.8	25.2	3.7	19.4
Manitoba	48.7	6.5	29.8	3.5	11.9
Saskatchewan	43.5	7.9	27.2	4.6	8.2
Alberta	30.0	7.4	17.9	3.3	5.7
British Columbia	37.6	9.7	22.5	6.5	22.1
Yukon	72.4	32.2	49.5	24.0	44.7
NWT	59.5	24.3	47.8	13.0	23.5
Canada	37.5	9.5	23.8	5.3	13.9

1. Caution: the reader should refer to the Methodology Section.
2. Central Heating System refers to steam or hot water furnace, forced hot air or installed electric heating system.
3. Refers to all private dwellings of the specified geographical area less registered Indian private dwellings.
4. Refers to all private dwellings of comparison communities near reserves within the specified geographical area.

Source: INAC customized data based on 1986 Census of Canada.

Prepared by Quantitative Analysis and Socio-demographic Research, Finance and Professional Services, INAC, 1989.





